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Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An airborne method for mapping and remotely reporting thermal and critical alignment evaluation data regarding the perimeter of a ground fire comprising

from an airborne platform which is deployed above, vertically remote from, and in selectable visual proximity to at least a portion of the perimeter line of a ground fire, gathering, along a substantially common line of sight, for remote transmission, linked thermal and optical imagery data interpretable for picturing positionally-defined thermal information relating to a selected region on and along such a perimeter-line portion,

substantially simultaneously, in relation to said gathering with respect to such a selected region, and from the spatial region immediately adjacent the airborne platform, additionally acquiring related critical-alignment, fire-information evaluation data including air temperature, relative humidity, wind speed, and wind direction solely from airborne sensors where such data is spatially independent from ground-based data, and

transmitting such thermal, optical and critical-alignment evaluation data to, and for reception and interpretation at, a remote site.

Claim 2. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1 which further includes, with respect to such a selected perimeter-line region, noting, relative to the platform, the associated angular disposition in space of the associated substantially common line of sight along which such optical and thermal data for that region is gathered.